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THE OBSERVATOR.

Reflections on the Answer to the Noble Peers Speech. On the Foreign News.

From **Saturday** January the 29th, to **Wednesday** February the 2d, 170¾.

ntry-m. MAster *Observator*, I have flung away a Penny on an Answer to the Noble Peers Speech,

tely Printed; 'tis a sorry, silly Answer, and hen I was Untrussing under a Hedge as I came ome, I was just going to apply it to the Sole fe of my Posteriours; but thinks I, now Master *bservator* is from his Books, he may be ontented to Read Nonsense, rather than Read othing, so I e'en sav'd it from that Use till you re Perus'd it; here it is.

Obs. I see the Author has taken Care to Conal his Name; he will not expose his Folly and is Person at the same time. He's Mr. *Positive*, nd a Shrewd Polititian: From such an Answerer ood Lord deliver me! This is such another piece s the *Whip and Key*, which I remember, was writn in Answer to *Absalom and Achitophel*. If there ad been any Rhimes in it, I should have sany'd *Tom Saffold* had been risen from the Dead n this Emergent Occasion; this Spark was cerainly bred at the Feet of *Deborah*, the Prophetess, n *Mincing-Lane*.

We must conclude this Answerer to be a *High-Flyer*, he has the very Cant of the Party; says he, *'Tis certain our Government is an Hereditary Monarchy, and utterly inconsistent with Republican Principles.* Now how came this Man to be certain of his thing? He cannot prove our Government to be an *Hereditary Monarchy*, either by our Laws, the Customs of our Ancestors, or our own. The *Act of Settlement*, I am sure, says no such thing, but the contrary; and for this Man to assert an *Hereditary Government* in *England*, is a Squint-Ey'd Reflection on Her Majesties Title: But some People may better Steal a Horse, than others look over the Hedge: I have known a Man Peep thro' a *Pillory* for a less Crime; and this Assertion, is the highest Affront that can be given to the *Legislative-Power*. For 'tis certain that the People of *England*, as Represented in Parliament, have an undoubted Right of Settling the Succession and Limitations of the Crown; this I have proved over and over; and shown you the Practise of our Ancestors on that Head; so that I need not say more on this Subject.

This is the Opinion of the Answerer in point of Government; now for a little of his Religion; he tells you, That the *Whigs*, when they had the upper-hand, *Confounded even Heaven and Earth to carry on the good Old Cause*. If this ben't Blasphemy, I don t know what to make of it. Can Heaven be Confounded? Can the Unerring Counsels of the most High God; can Omnipotence it self be put into any Disorder, or move Irregularly by the Actions of Men, whose Breath is in their Nostrils, and who are but Dust and a Vapour? We have much Reason, han't we, to take the Opinion of this Man, in relation to the *Occasional Conformity-Bill*, who in the same Breath Blasphemes the Almighty, and speaks of Religion.

I have shown you the Man in his *Politick* and *Religious* Capacity, and you find him a *Slave* and a *Blasphemer*: Now consider him in his Martial Capacity, and you'll find him a Close-quarter'd General, over Head and Ears in Trenches, well skill'd in the Doctrines of the *Wheel-barrow*, *Shovel* and *Pick-Ax*. He tells you, That we were too hard for the *French*; and over-match'd them in taking of *Huy*, *Bon*, and *Limbourgh*. This is e'en true enough, for if we had not over-match'd them, those places had not been Taken. I remember those very People, that now place the *Arcana Martis*, in taking of Towns, us'd to reflect on King *Williams* Conduct in that Point, and particularly in Relation to the Taking of *Namure*, which they said signify'd not so much to *England* as an Old Barn. But Mens minds alter much in a few Years time. I must confess there is less danger in taking a Town, than in a Field-Fight. 'Tis safer by far to bid Men go on, than to lead them into Danger; and I dare engage our Martial Answerer, will chuse his Station in War, so that he may be *Sine glade Victor*.

Country-m. What's the meaning of that, Master *Observator?*

Obs. The next time you go to Town, you may buy a Poem at Mr. *Hows*, call'd *Battel without Bloodshed*, which will throughly inform you, and by which you may learn to be a Compleat Soldier. ——— Now let us Consider the Answerer in his *Naval* Capacity. He says, There have been *Lords of the Admiralty*, not long since, that were utter Strangers to those Affairs; 'tis well if there be none such now in the *Admiralty*; but at any time, I am sure such Men do no kindness to their Country: For my part I shall vouch for the Understanding of none Employ'd in the *Navy*, but those of the *Victualling*, of whom the Sailors can give the best Account; I don't mean those that are dead, they are *Q'd* and *R'd*, into 'tother World: But I'll assure thee, Honest *Country-man*, I find our Answerer very Ignorant in our *Marine Affairs*, on which the Safety of the Crown and Realm does depend. For let the People play at Souldiers in *Flanders*, 'till they are weary of the sport; if we have but our Fleet in good order and well Condition'd, we need not fear any Power in *Europe*: I did not live in the Times of the *Good Old Cause*, as he calls it, But I wish the *Naval-power* of *France* had been kept under in the same Condition, as the People engaged in that Cause left it; That *England* might again with an Angry Word bring the *French* Tyrant to Reason. The best way for Us of this Age to Reflect on the Memory of those Men, is to do braver Actions for the *State*, and make *England* more terrible throughout *Europe*; than it was in those Days.

His

His Reflections on Prince *Lewis* of *Baden* and the Confederate Generals, is Natural enough in One, who endeavours to remove the Guilt from the Door of his Friends; but, pray, why ſhould not Prince *Lewis* have the *Gout*, as well as Us, that Diſtemper has made *Generals* Halt, and *Admirals* go to the *Bath*, before this Age; the only way that I know of preventing theſe Misfortunes, is to employ ſuch as are Sound *Wind* and *Limb*, *et Animo & Corpore*. Your *Sea-Fowl* are never chill'd in their *Limbs*, they never get the Cramp in their *Feet*, which the *Land-Fowl* are ſubject to when they dabble in the *Water*.

Now *Pug* begins to Coax; *Teague* is looking out for a Plauſh; mark yee, Page 4. *Wars are manag'd with leſs difficulty, and weight upon our Eſtates and Fortunes, than the Burdenſome days of another's Peace*; have at King *William*, of ever Glorious Memory, tho' he ſav'd Us from *Popery* and *Slavery*, and Secured us in the Poſſeſſion of our Rights, and Her Majeſty in Her Succeſſion to the Crown: Well, there's certainly a Charm in Reflecting on the Memory of that great Prince, the *Exorbitant-Grant-Man* found it ſo.

Let us go a little farther, he continues, *We have no Deficiencies of Funds to make good, no Millions falling ſhort, no preceding Seſſions to Account for now*, &c. God be thanked for all this. But I could tell our Anſwerer, were he capable of Reaſon, how our Funds came to fall ſhort in K. *Williams* Reign, and how it comes to be otherwiſe now; I won't Speak one Word of thoſe who ſet all things backward in his Reign, and forward in this; but, I'll take Mr. *Speech-Anſwerer*, in his Naval Capacity, and give him Satisfaction in this Point. When the Parliaments rais'd Money in K. *Williams* time for the Support of the *Navy*, they allotted ſo much *per Man per Diem*, for Proviſions; the Victuallers, by the riſe of Proviſions, could not Victual the Fleet at that rate; therefore if the Fleet was Victualled, the Nation muſt be in Debt. If now the Parliament gives the ſame Money for Victualling, and Proviſions are much cheaper; then inſtead of a Deficiency, there muſt be an Overplus. But thorowly to inform his Naval-Capacity, take a little Demonſtration. In King *Williams* time, Beef, for the moſt part of his Reign, was at 26, 27, 28*s.* a Hundred, and upwards; Pork, at 30 and 35*s.* Bread at 20*s.* a hundred Weight, and other Proviſions in Proportion. In this Reign, we have Beef under 20*s.* a Hundred, Pork at 24 or 25; Bread at 7 or 8*s.* a Hundred Weight, and other Proviſions in proportion; ſome Species are above half in half cheaper, others one third, and ſo on. Now this King *Williams* was a ſad Man, was he not? That the People would not Sell ſo cheap in his Reign, as in this; and are not we very good Huſbands that can buy as much for 7 or 8*s.* as his Officers cou'd buy for Twenty? But, however, notwithſtanding the great Charge in that Reign, the *Sailors* had good Proviſions; they did not eat Stinking Beef and Pork, and I think 'tis not the Expence, but the Lives of our Sailors that we oughtto Queſtion.

As to his Cavils about the *Lending-part* of the Nation, I leave that Point to be determined by the Books of *Loans* in the Chamberlain of *Londons Office*; and ſo good Night, Gaffer *Gooſe-cap*, I have done with you, Mr. *Anſwerer*. — Haſt brought us any News, Honeſt *Country-man*? Open thy Budget.

Country-m. That I will, Sir, with Four *Holland* Mails And they bring us a parcel of Fighting *Stories*, that pie to the Heart: Maſter *Staremburgh*, the Emperours Gener Fought and Defeated Goodman *Albergotti* the *French* Ge the *Germans* Kill'd 'em a power of Men, and Wounded tell how many more, for the Letters ſay there was 37 W Load of 'em, and *Albergotti* was one of the Number, the two other Engagements in which the *French* were worſ am glad to hear the *French* Slaves are knock'd on the

Obj. I remember old Councellour *Wallop* us'd to ſay, t this Age, Fighting is turned into Eating, Drinking and paigning, but I find that Maxim does not hold good where: What more haſt thou got? Out with it.

Country-m. Sir, you muſt take what I tell you in little the Poſtſcript to the *Flying-Poſt*, for I could not ſtay to have large in my Queens *Gazette*. But this I can aſſure you, th *Germans* with 16000 Men have joyned 14000 *Savoyards*, are Marching towards the *Millaneze*.

Obj. That's 30000 Men, and at leaſt 20000 of 'em Vete Soldiers, I foreſee thou wilt have *Fighting Stories* enough that part of *Europe*; but how much like a Fool, a Ly Knave, does the *French* Ambaſſador at the Court of *Portugal* look, who lately gave out that the *Germans* were Rout they were Marching to joyn the Duke of *Savoy*, and that Prince had ſubmitted himſelf to the *French* Tyrant, and had all his Garriſons and Strong Holds into the poſſeſſion of F Troops? I can without the help of the Stars Calculate a Ly the *Meridian* of *Paris*, and can tell thee before Hand, tha the *French Legend* call'd a *Gazette*, you'll find the King of S (I don't mean the *French Perkin* at *Madrid*) as Dead as a *ring*, all the Ships that were to Convoy him to *Portugal* S and Stranded, and all the Sailors on Board of them gone a ing to the Bottom for *Conger*. I'll lay thee a Half-penny the hear of ſuch a Story from *France*.

Country-m. You loſt a Wager to me once already abou Lady *Tyrconnel*, and never paid me, and therefore I'll lay more with you. But I'll aſſure you Lying is a great Quali tion among ſome ſort of People: I was at a *Perkinite* Coff Houſe this Journey, where the Chickens made a Noiſe as if th had been all Hatch'd under a French-Hen, I wiſh'd that Ma *Truth* would come among 'em and ſee if he could Reform for only he or Death can make 'em leave Lying. What a p ty way d'ye think they have got of procuring *Intelligenc* they ſay; they go down to the Coaſt of *Suſſex*, and ſtanding the Beach they fly a great *Kite* with a little *Jacobite* at the T on't a hugy way up in the Air, there he ſees little *Perkin* go to Maſs at St. *Germains*, with a *Green Leek* and a piece of *Toa ed Cheeſe* in his Hand as long as a *Truncheon*, then he caſts Eye towards *Verſails*, peeps into the *French* King's Chamb and ſees him taking a Bit of Old Hat with Madam *Maintn* he then looks up into the Country, and ſees the Duke of *wick* Riding Poſt for *Madrid*; then turning his Head towa the *Weſt* looks into the Sea, and there ſees the King *Spain* and Sir *George Rook*, tumbling and toſſing on the Ocea and by this new Invention all the *Perkinite* Coffee-Houſes *London* are to be ſupply'd every 24 Hours with all the Mater Occurrences that happen in *France*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, or the Sea, as far as the *Southward Cape*.

Obſ. This is a Notable Invention if they get a Patent for they'll get Eſtates by *Intelligence*. What more haſt got?

Country-m. The Brave *German* General, 'tis a Woundy ha Name and ſticks in my Throat, *I* ſhall get it up preſently.— Oh I have it: ——— General *Trautſmandorf* is Dead of an Ap *plexy*, I told a Gentleman at a Coffee-Houſe I was ſorry to he of a Generals Dying that way, for I would have 'em all kill'd Battle, and the ſooner the better. Why ſo? ſays he: Said I, Be cauſe they putting their Men firſt in Fight, *I* ſuppoſe they a the laſt Kill'd, and that abundance of *Potſherds* would be brok before the Great *Pipkin* would be crack'd; and when all th Fighting Folks are Dead, the whole World will be at Peace; h told me that *I* was a Fool, and did not underſtand Fighting for that the Generals were always in the Front of the Army and Expoſed to the greateſt Dangers: Then, ſaid *I*, they hav very good Luck, for we han't had one Kill'd a long Time. S you ſee how idlely a Man ſometimes talks, when he ſpeaks ou of the way of his own Calling.

Obj. When thou goeſt next to Town, Honeſt *Country-man* bring the particulars of this News, 'tis late and we muſt keep good Hours in the Country, and ſo *I* wiſh you a good Night.

Adverti ſement.

THE preſent Danger of *Popery* in *England*. Shewing, 1. The Strength of the *Engliſh Papiſts* at Home and Abroad. 2. An Account of their *Religious-Houſes* in Foreign parts, and in *England*. 3. An Abſtract of the Laws in Force againſt *Papiſts*. 4. Reaſons for putting thoſe Laws in Execution. 5. A Propoſal for the ſame. *Price 6d.* Sold by *J. How*, at the *ſeven Stars* in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace-Church-ſtreet*.

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